NUMB. CCCXXXI.

The SPECTATOR.

—Stolidam præbet tibi vellere barbam. Perſ.

Thurſday, March 20. 1712.

WHEN I was laſt with my Friend Sir ROGER in *Weſtminſter-Abby*, I obſerved that he ſtood longer than ordinary before the Buſt of a Venerable old Man. was at a loſs to gueſs the Reaſon of it, when after me time he pointed to the Figure, and asked me did not think that our Forefathers looked much er in their Beards than we do without them? my part, ſays he, when I am walking in my llery in the Country, and ſee my Anceſtors, who y of them died before they were of my Age, I not forbear regarding them as ſo many old Paichs, and at the ſame time looking upon my ſelf idle Smock-faced young Fellow. I love to your *Abrahams*, your *Iſaacs* and your *Jacobs*, we have them in old Pieces of Tapeſtry, with rds below their Girdles, that cover half the Hang-. The Knight added, that if I would recomd Beards in one of my Papers, and endeavour ſtore Human Faces to their Ancient Dignity, upon a Month's warning he would undertake lead up the Faſhion himſelf in a pair of Whiſ-.

I ſmiled at my Friend's Fancy; but after we ted could not forbear reflecting on the Metaorphoſes our Faces have undergone in this Particu-.

The Beard, conformable to the Notion of my iend, Sir ROGER, was for many Ages looked on as the Type of Wiſdom. *Lucian* more than ce rallies the Philoſophers of his Time who enavoured to rival one another in Beard; and reſents a learned Man who ſtood for a Profeſſorip in Philoſophy as unqualified for it by the Shortſs of his Beard.

Elian in his Account of *Zoilus*, the pretended ritick, who wrote againſt *Homer* and *Plato*, and ought himſelf wiſer than all who had gone before m, tells us that this *Zoilus* had a very long Beard at hung down upon his Breaſt, but no Hair upon Head, which he always kept cloſe ſhaved; reſolding, it ſeems, the Hairs of his Head as ſo many ckers, which if they had been ſuffered to grow, ight have drawn away the Nouriſhment from his Chin, and by that means have ſtarved his Beard.

I have read ſomewhere that one of the Popes refuſed to accept an Edition of a Saint's Works, which were preſented to him, becauſe the Saint, in his Effigies before the Book, was drawn without a Beard.

We ſee by theſe Inſtances what Homage the World has formerly paid to Beards; and that a Barber was not then allowed to make thoſe Depredations on the Faces of the Learned, which have been permitted him of later Years.

Accordingly ſeveral wiſe Nations have been ſo extreamly Jealous of the leaſt Ruffle offered to their Beards, that they ſeem to have fix'd the Point of Honour principally in that part. The *Spaniards* were wonderfully tender in this Particular. *Don Quevedo*, in his third Viſion on the laſt Judgment, has carried the Humour very far, when he tells us that one of his vain-glorious Countrymen, after having received Sentence, was taken into Cuſtody by a couple of Evil Spirits; but that his Guides happening to diſorder his Muſtachoes, they were forced to recompoſe them with a pair of Curling-Irons before they could get him to file off.

If we look into the Hiſtory of our own Nation, we ſhall find that the Beard flouriſhed in the *Saxon* Heptarchy, but was very much diſcouraged under the *Norman* Line. It ſhot out, however, from time to time in ſeveral Reigns, under different Shapes. The laſt Effort it made ſeems to have been in Queen *Mary*'s Days, as the curious Reader may find, if he pleaſes to peruſe the Figures of Cardinal *Poole* and Biſhop *Gardiner*; tho' at the ſame ſame time, I think, it may be queſtioned, if Zeal againſt Popery has not induced our Proteſtant Painters, to extend the Beards of theſe two Perſecutors beyond their natural Dimenſions, in order to make them appear the more terrible.

I find but few Beards, worth taking notice of, in the Reign of King *James* the Firſt.

During the Civil Wars there appeared one, which makes too great a Figure in Story to be paſſed over in Silence; I mean that of the redoubted *Hudibras*, an Account of which *Butler* has tranſmitted to Poſterity in the following Lines.

His

His tawny Beard was th' equal Grace,
Both of his Wisdom, and his Face.
In Cut and Dye so like a Tyle,
A sudden View it would beguile.
The upper Part thereof was Whey,
The nether Orange mixt with Grey.

The Whisker continued for some time among us, after the Extirpation of Beards; but this is a Subject which I shall not here enter upon, having discussed it at large in a distinct Treatise, which I keep by me in Manuscript upon the *Mustachoe*.

If my Friend Sir ROGER's Project, of introducing Beards, should take Effect, I fear the Luxury of the present Age would make it a very expensive Fashion. There is no question but the Beaux would soon provide themselves with false ones of the lightest Colours, and the most immoderate Lengths. A fair Beard, of the Tapestry-Size Sir ROGER seems to approve, could not come under Twenty Guineas. The Famous Golden Beard of *Esculapius* would hardly be more Valuable, than one made in the Extravagance of the Fashion.

Besides, we are not certain that the Ladies would not come into the Mode, when they take the Air on Horse-back. They already appear in Hats and Feathers, Coats and Perriwigs; and I see no Reason, why we may not suppose that they would have their *riding Beards* on the same Occasion.

I may give the Moral of this Discourse in another Paper.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Never acted but twice.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Thursday, the 20th Day of March, will be presented a new Tragedy call'd, The Distrest Mother. By Her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

AT Punch's Theatre in the Little Piazza, Covent-Garden, this present Thursday, will be presented the New Opera called, The False Triumph, Or the Destruction of Troy. All the Greeks will be exactly Dress after the Ancient Manner of that Country, and the Trojans the same. At Paris's Triumph, the Stage is Beautified with Trophies, the side Scenes Representing Elephants with Castles, in which are Syrians holding forth Splendid Banners, with Indians on Horse-Back, bearing of Curious Trophies. The part of Jupiter to be perform'd by Signior Punchinello who in a Chariot Drawn by an Eagle, descends and Sings to Paris; with a Prospect of the City of Troy in Flames; Concluding with a Surprising fine new piece of Machinary, after the British manner. Beginning exactly at Six. Boxes 2 s. 6 d. Pit 1 s. 6 d. No Money to be return'd after the Curtain is Drawn up; Nor any Entrance at the descending of the Machines without Paying the full Price.

Just Published,

Creation. A Philosophical Poem. Demonstrating the Existence and Providence of a God. In Seven Books. By Sir Richard Blackmore, Knt. M. D. and Fellow of the College of Physicians in London. Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the Dolphin in Little Britain; and J. Tonson, at Shakespear's Head over against Catherine-street in the Strand.

Lately Publish'd,

Ovid's Art of Love. In three Books. Translated by Mr. Dryden, Mr. Congreve, &c. Together with the Remedy of Love. To which are added, The Court of Love. A Tale from Chaucer. And the History of Love. Adorn'd with Cuts. Printed for Tonson, and Sold by W. Taylor at the Ship in Pater-noster row. Lately Printed the English Edition of Ovid's Epistles, with a new Translation of three Epistles, and several new Cuts.

This Day is Published,

A Full Answer to the Conduct of the Allies, To which is added some Observations on the Remarks on the Barrier Treaty, by the same Author. price 1 s. Sold by J. Baker in Paternoster Row, where may be had the Conduct of the Duke of Marlborough, during the War; with Original Papers, price 4 s.

A curious Collection of Pictures of various Masters, belonging to a private Gentleman, will be exposed to Sale the 27th Instant, at the Dwelling-house of the late famous Mr. Dubois, at the corner of the Little Piazza, in Russel street, Covent Garden. To be viewed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before the Sale. Catalogues of which will be delivered out at Mr. Cooper's at the White Ridgeons in Bedford-street, and the Place of Sale. N. B. As these Pictures are submitted to recommend themselves, it will be needless to assure the Ingenious that no unfair Practice will be used in the Sale.

This Day begins the Sale at the Black Bull in Cornhill, over-against the Royal Exchange, at 1 in the Afternoon, the Goods of a Glass Man, deceas'd, consisting of several large Glasses Carv'd and Gilt Frames, Glass Frames, and all sorts of arch'd Glasses, Chimney Glasses, and Dressing Glasses, with all sorts of Cabinets, Book Cases and Card Tables, and all sorts of Cabinet-Ware.

These are to give Notice, That at the Glass-Lanthorn in Plough-Yard in Gray's-Inn-Lane, still lives Susanna Perkins, the Daughter of that Eminent D. & or Tho. Kirkins, (who was a Sworn Physician to K. Charles II. &c.) who with his famous Pills and Drink cures the Secret Disease, and all Ulcers, Sores, Swellings, Kings Evil, Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Scurveys, and Leprosies, tho never so great, without hindering Business, or the Use of Meat, which destroys many; and cures any who send their Case and Water without seeing them, having had above 20 Years Experience in the Doctor's Life time. The Drink is 3 s. the Quart, the Pills 1 s. the Box. She gives her Advice in Distempers, to all that write or come to her, gratis, and deals with all Persons according to their Abilities.

At the Bell in Henrietta-street, Covent-Garden, March the 4th we opened three Books for the Sale of GLOVES, which have met with very good Success and Encouragement, at 20 per Cent. per Cent. Advantage, in a return of no longer time than 6 Months for the first hundred Pair, and none will stay longer than six Weeks from the time of their Entrance, before they receive the proposed Advantage. Attendance is given at the Place aforesaid from 9 to 12, and from 2 to 6, Holidays excepted.

To be Lett or Sold a Pennyworth, a new fashionable well built Brick House (lately Wm. Cook's, Esq;) at Barnes in Surrey, two Miles nearer London than Richmond, with two Gardens well stor'd, and well planted with the best of Fruit, in which are two Green Houses with Orange and Myrtle Trees, a Coach-house, Stable, Dove Cote, Summer-house, Out-houses, and all other Conveniencies with or without four Acres of Land next to the Gardens. Enquire at the said House, or at the next Door.

To be Sold, the Manors of Southcave and Fleet in Southcave, amounting to upwards of 400 l. per Annum, inquire of Mr. John Greenwood, Attorney in Wood-street London, or Mr. Ergo, Sturgis, in York.

Whereas Gilbert Lacy, Linnen-Draper at the Golden Artichoak in Henrietta-street Covent Garden, is leaving off Business, this is to give Notice that he will dispose of his Goods as a low Rate, and the House and Shop to be Let.

Incomparable Perfuming Drops for Handkerchiefs and all other Linnen Cloaths, Gloves, &c. being the most Excellent that purpose in the Universe, for they Stain nothing that is perfumed with 'em, any more than fair Water, but are the most Delicate, Fragrant and Odoriferous Perfume in Nature, and good against all Diseases of the Head and Brain: By their delicious Smell, they Comfort, Revive and Refresh all the Senses, Natural, Vital and Animal, cheer the Spirits, cheat the Heart, and drive away Melancholy. They likewise perfume Rooms, Beds, Presses, Drawers, Boxes, &c. (making them all surprizingly Fine and Odoriferous. They perfume the Hands exceedingly, are an extraordinary Scent for the Pocket; and, in short, so exceeding Pleasant and Delightful, so admirably Curious and Delicate, and of such general Use, that nothing in the World can come with 'em. Sold only at Mrs Payn's, Topshop at the Angel, and Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard near Cheapside, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*: And Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken In; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings*, in the *Strand*.